

## HONORING EARL FRANCIS LLOYD

**HON. DONALD S. BEYER, JR.**

OF VIRGINIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 31, 2022*

Mr. BEYER. Madam Speaker, I rise today to recognize Earl Francis Lloyd, born in my home City of Alexandria.

Mr. Lloyd was the first African American player to play a game in the National Basketball Association. In addition, his stellar career included honors as an All-American player at West Virginia State University when in 1948 he helped lead them to an undefeated season. As a professional, Mr. Lloyd helped lead the Syracuse Nationals to the 1955 NBA Championship and was inducted into the Naismith Basketball Hall of Fame in 2003. His achievements will be forever recognized with the dedication Earl Lloyd State Historical Marker on Montgomery Street in Alexandria this Saturday, April 2, 2022.

Please join me in commemorating Mr. Lloyd, a native Alexandrian who exemplified excellence throughout his life.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. KEVIN BRADY**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 31, 2022*

Mr. BRADY. Madam Speaker, I was unavoidably detained. Had I been present, I would have voted YEA on Roll Call No. 90; YEA on Roll Call No. 91; YEA on Roll Call No. 92; YEA on Roll Call No. 93; YEA on Roll Call No. 94; NAY on Roll Call No. 95; YEA on Roll Call No. 96; and YEA on Roll Call No. 97.

## PERSONAL EXPLANATION

**HON. JOHN GARAMENDI**

OF CALIFORNIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 31, 2022*

Mr. GARAMENDI. Madam Speaker, yesterday I entered my vote incorrectly for Roll Call No. 95 on S. 2938. I mistakenly voted NAY when I intended to vote YEA.

**FEMA CASEWORKER  
ACCOUNTABILITY ACT**

SPEECH OF

**HON. SHEILA JACKSON LEE**

OF TEXAS

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Wednesday, March 30, 2022*

Ms. JACKSON LEE. Madam Speaker, I rise today in strong support of H.R. 5343, the "FEMA Caseworker Accountability Act."

This bill directs FEMA to report to Congress on case management personnel turnover.

Specifically, FEMA must report on the turnover rate for their case management personnel, the average and median length of employment for such personnel, the steps that FEMA is taking or plans to take to lower the turnover rate, and other specified points.

Madam Speaker, FEMA's importance cannot be overstated. They have invaluable abilities to plan, coordinate, and execute very complex strategies to fulfill the disaster response and mitigation needs of local and state governments through collaboration and cooperation among a broad range of federal government agencies.

Following the havoc inflicted by Hurricane Harvey, I experienced firsthand the power of FEMA's skill, care, and rapid execution.

The nine-county Houston metro area that was impacted by Hurricane Harvey covers 9,444 square miles, an area larger than five states, including New Hampshire, New Jersey and Connecticut.

Harris County covers 1,778 square miles, enough space to fit New York City, Philadelphia, Boston, Chicago, Seattle, Austin and Dallas, with room still to spare.

Over 41,500 square miles of land mass were impacted by Hurricane Harvey and the subsequent flooding that covered an area larger than the States of Connecticut, Massachusetts, New Hampshire, Rhode Island and Vermont combined.

Hurricane Harvey dropped 21 trillion gallons of rainfall on Texas and Louisiana, most of it on the Houston Metroplex.

Harvey dropped 51.88 inches of rain near Cedar Bayou, the highest total ever recorded for a single U.S. weather event.

At its peak on September 1, 2017, one-third of Houston was underwater.

At the peak on August 31, there were 34,575 evacuees in shelters across Texas.

Hurricane Harvey is the largest housing disaster to strike the U.S. in our nation's history, damaging 203,000 homes, of which 12,700 were destroyed.

Months after Hurricane Harvey, in February 2018, an estimated 10,098 families were still residing in hotel rooms, in over 1,500 hotels. Thousands of others whose homes were severely damaged were living with family or friends.

It was also the second costliest disaster ever recorded in the United States, with an estimated \$125 billion dollars in damages.

In its wake, 889,425 people registered for assistance with the Federal Emergency Management Agency.

There were scores of families, including small children and the elderly, living in mold-infested or gutted-out homes.

When this once-in-a-lifetime disaster struck my district, FEMA did their jobs exceedingly well, for which I am incredibly grateful.

However, there is always room for improvement in federal agencies, and FEMA is no exception.

A high rate of caseworker turnover is the last thing that vulnerable families need. In my district, the recovery from Hurricane Harvey is ongoing, which can be seen in the caved-in roofs, torn-up streets; and shuttered buildings across my district.

Those problems do not linger singularly because of caseworker turnover, but it is certainly a significant reason. If no one is working on closing these cases, or they are being managed by only a few overwhelmed individuals, that's a problem which needs fixing.

Therefore, passing this legislation will set us on a path to fix that problem, Madam Speaker, which is why I strongly support this legislation and urge my colleagues to support it as well.

H.R. 5343 will play a critical role in FEMA's post-disaster response operations, and I look

forward to reviewing Administrator Criswell's future report and implementing its recommendations.

CONGRATULATING SHAQUILLE O'NEAL FOR WINNING AN OSCAR FOR "THE QUEEN OF BASKETBALL"

**HON. NIKEMA WILLIAMS**

OF GEORGIA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 31, 2022*

Ms. WILLIAMS of Georgia. Madam Speaker, I want to congratulate my Fifth Congressional District constituent, Olympian, four-time NBA Champion, NBA All-Star, and member of both the Naismith Memorial Basketball Hall of Fame and FIBA Hall of Fame, Shaquille Rashaun O'Neal, on winning an Oscar.

"The Queen of Basketball," produced by executive producers Shaquille O'Neal and Steph Curry, won the Academy Award for short subject documentary on March 27, 2022.

The film shines a light on the incredible story of Lusia Harris, the first and only woman to be drafted by the NBA and the first to score a basket in women's Olympic history.

In addition to shattering glass ceilings herself, Harris helped lead her teams to excellence, including winning three consecutive Association for Intercollegiate Athletics for Women National Championships and a silver medal at the 1976 Summer Olympic Games in Montreal.

Harris, who recently passed away in January 2022, is a trailblazer in professional basketball and must be celebrated and commemorated for years to come. I thank you Shaquille O'Neal for doing just that.

Congratulations to Shaq and the entire production team on the award-winning "The Queen of Basketball."

## TRIBUTE TO RENEE POWELL

**HON. JAMES E. CLYBURN**

OF SOUTH CAROLINA

IN THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES

*Thursday, March 31, 2022*

Mr. CLYBURN. Madam Speaker, as we continue our celebration of Women History Month, I rise today to pay tribute to a trailblazing woman, an extraordinary athlete, and a stalwart advocate for equal rights.

Renee Powell is being honored with the Charlie Bartlett Award by the Golf Writers Association on April 8, 2022, on the eve of the Masters golf tournament in August, Georgia. I echo their recognition of Renee for her lifelong contributions as a professional golfer and player on the national and world stage.

Renee Powell started life with a golf club in her hand, if not literally, at least figuratively. She was born in Camden, Ohio in 1946, the same year her father William Powell returned from World War II and was confronted with discrimination on and off the golf course. He worked nights as a security guard and spent his days building a golf course on farmland in East Canton, Ohio. He opened Clearview Golf Club, which he dubbed "America's Course" in 1948, where people of all colors were welcomed to play. He owned and operated the golf course for the remainder of his life.